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Rec'd February 15, 1949
5:38 p.m.

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OFFICE OF EUROPEAN AFFAIRS
MESSAGE CENTER

FROM: Moscow

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 377, February 15, 7 p.m.

REEMBTEL 368, February 15.

As nearly as we can establish, Anna Louise Strong last seen early Sunday evening, February 13 and probably arrested during that night.

Reliable sources report she was in highly nervous state during preceding week, apparently induced by:

(1) Reiterated obvious evasion Foreign Office press department (by which she was accredited as correspondent "allied labor news") to her demand for decision to travel north China after she learned from north China radio advance party WPTU expected arrive shortly via Soviet Union; and

(2) Inability to contact her associate, editor MOSCOW NEWS Borodin, who seems have disappeared.

In light latter, seems likely Strong's association with staff may have drawn official attention MOSCOW NEWS, though we still inclined believe it closed down, once attention drawn and bureaucratic inertia thus ended, mainly because no longer worth investment and not because any suspected conspiracy.

Our best guess Foreign Office reply Embassy's note will be received after some days repeating espionage charges as in Soviet press and stating cannot visit as already expulsed from country.

Coincidentally,

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-2- 2377, February 15, 7 p.m. from Kosov

Coincidentally, police surveillance ended [illegible] (LIMITA 391, February 10) has ceased suddenly, and no [illegible] check was put on all mails this case being prepared.

KOHLER

DM:VRS